

1 Corinthians 13: 13

*“And now these three remain: faith, hope, and love;
but the greatest of these is love.”*

No Greater Gift is a lyrical and inspired new musical setting of the beloved passage from 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13. Appropriate for performance throughout the year, it may be especially useful for stewardship, Mother’s Day or Father’s Day and weddings. Additional suggested corresponding scripture readings include Psalm 71, Jeremiah 1: 4-10 and Luke 4: 21-40. One basic homiletical theme is the greatest of God’s gifts to us: love.

In rehearsal, strive for a very lyric legato, with a strong sense of the underlying eighth note pulse. For a special prayer response or benediction, perform only measures 1-20.

Ruth Elaine Schram lives in Birmingham, Alabama, where she is a full-time composer and arranger. She is an ASCAP Special Awards recipient, with over eight hundred published works. In addition to her printed choral music, she has written numerous songs for popular children’s albums and video tapes.

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for Dan and Crystie

NO GREATER GIFT

for S.A.B. or 2-part mixed voices, accompanied*

Text adapted by **RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM**
from *1 Corinthians 13*Music by
RUTH ELAINE SCHRAM (ASCAP)

With conviction (♩ = ca. 88)

ACCOMP.

mp

4 UNISON WOMEN

mp

⑤

Though I speak _____ the lan - guage of

cresc.

an - gels, _____

though I know _____

cresc.

* For performance by 2-part mixed voices, omit the alto part. Also available for S.A.T.B. voices, No. 20889.

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10 *S. mf*
all there is to know, *A. mf* if I
B. mf

13
have no love, I am noth - ing at

16 *dim.*
all. There is no gift great-er than
dim.

dim.

19 *mp* (21)

love. And though I

22

un - der - stand ev - 'ry mys - ter - y, and my

25

faith could re - move an - y moun - tain,

28 *mf* (29)

if I have no love, I am noth - ing at

32

all. There is no gift great-er than

35 *cresc.* love. *cresc.*

(37) *f* Love is kind and

cresc. *f*

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of three systems of staves. The first system (measures 28-31) has a vocal line and a piano accompaniment, both marked *mf*. The second system (measures 32-35) continues the vocal and piano parts. The third system (measures 36-39) features a vocal line with a *cresc.* marking and a piano accompaniment with a *cresc.* marking. A large red watermark 'Preview Only' is overlaid diagonally across the page.

38

gen - tle, re - joic - ing in the truth.

41

Love is not proud. Love is not rude.

45

Love nev - er fails, though all oth - er gifts will

20890

48 *rall.*

cease. _____ Love hopes and en - dures, love bears and be -

52 *rall.*

lieves. (53) Slightly slower

Though I give _____ all I have to the

Slightly slower

55

hun - gry, _____ though I give _____ my ver-y

59 life, if I have no

61

62 love, I am noth - ing at all.

65 There is no gift great-er than love.

68

There is hope, there is faith; they will

69

al - ways re - main. But,

rall. e dim. *mf*

dim. *mf*

rall. e dim.

74 Slower

there is no gift great-er than love.

rit. *mp*

mp

Slower

mf *rit.* *mp*

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